

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 AID-20 EB-11 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03

SS-20 RSC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04

USIA-15 PRS-01 TRSE-00 OMB-01 DRC-01 /142 W

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R 101125Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5770

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L KABUL 7837

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, EGEN, AF

SUBJECT: INDIAN PLANNING TEAM ASSESSING AFGHAN ECONOMY

REF: KABUL 7015

1. SUMMARY: INDIAN PLANNING TEAM CURRENTLY VISITING HERE IS ASSESSING ALL ESPECTS OF AFGHAN ECONOMY AND WILL RECOMMEND RE NEED AND DESIRE FOR RESIDENT INDIAN PLANNING GROUP TO ASSIST GOA IN PLANNING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. INDIAN SPOKESMAN CHARACTERIZED CURRENT AFGHAN FIVE YEAR PLAN AS MUCH TOO AMBITIOUS FOR AVAILABLE STATISTICS AND DATA BASE. END SUMMARY.

2. IN CONVERSATION WITH CHARGE LAST WEEK RESIDENT INDIAN FIRST SECRETARY L. MANSINGH RELATED BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE OF INDIAN PLANNING TEAM CURRENTLY VISITING AFGHANISTAN. ACCORDING MANSINGH, TEAM VISIT IS IN RESPONSE TO REQUEST BY MOHAMMED NAIM, GOA SPECIAL ENVOY, DURING HIS VISIT TO INDIA IN SEPTEMBER (REFTEL). FIVE MAN TEAM WILL SPEND TEN DAYS HERE REVIEWING ALL ASPECTS OF AFGHAN ECONOMY IN ATTEMPT DETERMINE AREAS WHERE PLANNING NEED IS GREATEST AND MOST DESIRED. AFTER PRELIMINARY SURVEY, IF GOA WANTS MORE
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PERMANENT RESIDENT INDIAN GROUP, INDIAN GOVERNMENT IS PREPARED

RESPOND FAVORABLY AND QUICKLY.

3. ACCORDING MANSINGH, THIS IS FIRST FRANK EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON AFGHAN PLANNING PROCESS. INDIANS CHARACTERIZE PRESENT FIVE YEAR PLAN AS QUOTE POOR UNQUOTE AND MUCH TOO AMBITIOUS GIVEN PARLOUS STATE OF LOCAL STATISTICS AND DATA BASE. AFGHANS AGREE THAT PLAN PREPARED BY PREVIOUS GOVERNMENT NEEDS REVISION BUT THEY BLAME RUSSIANS WHO THEY CLAIM DID NOT RPT NOT WORK WITH THEM ON PLAN BUT PRESENTED IT TO THEM AS FAIT ACCOMPLI. AS RESULT, GOA HAS TURNED TO INDIANS FOR HELP.

4. INDIAN SPOKESMAN SAYS AFGHANS ARE MONTHS AWAY FROM DEVELOPING NEW FIVE YEAR PLAN. HE ALSO PREDICTED FRG PRIVATE ADVISORY GROUP, HENDRICKSON TEAM, WILL NOT RPT NOT BE STAYING SINCE GOA DOES NOT RPT NOT WANT THEM.

5. COMMENT: PRESENCE OF INDIAN PLANNING TEAM ON HEELS OF INDIAN FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT IS ANOTHER INDICATION GOA DESIRE FOR CLOSER RELATIONS WITH INDIA. EMBASSY ALSO HAS HEARD RUMORS THAT IMPENDING EXCHANGE CONTROL SYSTEM WILL FOLLOW INDIAN MODEL USING MULTIPLE EXCHANGE RATES. EMBASSY WILL REPORT FURTHER ON INDIAN PLANNING EFFORTS WHEN MORE INFO IS AVAILABLE.
LEWIS

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Message Attributes

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